

Message Text

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60

ACTION IO-14

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SUBJ: FIFTH COMITE ACTION OCT 4 -- PROGRAM BUDGET

SECTION 22

1. DURING FIFTH COMITE CONSIDERATION OF SECTION 22 OF 1974-75 PROGRAM BUDGET, ALGERIAN REP (BOUAYAD-AGHA) INTRODUCED FORMAL PROPOSAL WITH EMOTIONAL PLEA CALLING FOR REJECTION OF ACABQ RECOMMENDATION AND RESTITUTION OF AMOUNT REQUESTED BY SYG FOR DEPT POLITICAL AFFAIRS, TRUSTEESHIP AND DECOLONIZATION. HE LATER REQUESTED ROLL CALL VOTE, WITH RESULT 52-5(BRAZIL, CANADA, FRANCE, UK, US)-16.

2. ALGERIAN REP ARGUED THAT ACABQ-RECOMMENDED CUT IN STAFF WAS UNACCEPTABLE SINCE "COLONIALISM IS A THREAT TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA", AND EFFORTS TO COMBAT IT BY THIS DEPT WAS MOST IMPORTANT WORK OF SECRETARIAT. CONTINUING, HE SAID ADVISORY COMITE FAILED TO APPRECIATE THIS FACT BY APPARENTLY TAKING A "CASUAL APPROACH" TO PROBLEM. IN ALL JUSTICE, HE ARGUED, PORTUGAL AND SOUTH AFRICA "AND THEIR SUPPORTERS" SHOULD PAY FOR FULL COST OF THIS DEPT. HE THEN CALLED FOR COMITE VOTE ON ESTIMATE SUBMITTED BY SYG, MINUS \$6,000 WHICH TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER

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SECTION (I.E., \$2,824,000) AND THUS REJECT ACABQ PROPOSAL.

3. LDCS, IN PARTICULAR AFRICAN AND ARABS, RALLIED TO SUPPORT OF ALGERIAN MOTION AND ENTERED DEBATE. OTHERS, WHILE NOT QUESTIONING IMPORTANCE OF WORK OF DEPT, ARGUED THAT IT COULD BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN RESOURCES RECOMMENDED BY ACABQ AND REDEPLOYMENT OF SECRETARIAT STAFF. SOVIET BLOC, WITH EXCEPTION OF HUNGARY, KEPT SILENT BUT IN VOTE ALL FELL IN LINE AND SUPPORTED BUDGET INCREASE AND ALGERIAN PROPOSAL. HUNGARIAN REP ARGUED THAT ADDITIONAL STAFF RESOURCES, IF REQUIRED, COULD BE PROVIDED FROM WITHIN TOTAL SECRETARIAT ESTABLISHMENT, AND THEREFOR BUDGET INCREASE WAS UNNECESSARY; HOWEVER, IN VOTE HE SUPPORTED ALGERIAN PROPOSAL. US (STOTTLEMYER) AFTER ASSOCIATING WITH CANADIAN STATEMENT IN SUPPORT PARA 22.5 OF ACABQ REPORT, THEN FOCUSED ON PARA 22.7 AND URGED COMITE TO SUPPORT ACABQ RECOMMENDATION OF \$2,707,000. MOVE BY AUSTRALIA TO POSTPONE VOTE WAS DEFEATED BY 23(US)-39-6.

4. ALTHOUGH MOST WEO AND NUMBER OF OTHER FRIENDLY DELS (E.G. PHILIPPINES) SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF ACABQ RECOMMENDATION AND US DEL STATEMENT; IN ROLL CALL VOTE THEY ABSTAINED EXCEPT FOR UK, FRANCE, AND CANADA. SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IS THAT AFRICANS AND ARABS TOTALLY "POLITICIZED" QUESTION, WHICH WAS, IN FACT, ADMINISTRATIVE IN NATURE.

COMMENT: IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS FOLLOWING VOTE, AFRICAN/ARAB DELS SHOWED RESTRAINED JUBILATION AT HAVING RESTORED CUTS RECOMMENDED BY ACABQ. WHETHER OR NOT THESE DELS WILL TAKE SIMILAR TACTIC WHEN OTHER PROGRAM BUDGET SECTIONS CONSIDERED BY FIFTH COMITE REMAINS TO BE SEEN, BUT BASED ON TODAY'S PERFORMANCE, WARNING SIGNALS ARE OBVIOUS.

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